

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 04:24:24 1994  
Date: Tue, 18 Oct 94 21:20:22 HST  
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)  
Message-ID: <9410190720.AA17911@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>  
Subject: DDD SOS

Yanked this off of rec.radio.shortwave - an actual DDD SOS!

Jeff NH6IL

\*\*\*\*\*

Article: 61685 of rec.radio.shortwave  
>From: ae411@yfn.ysu.edu (Richard Baker)  
Subject: SOS  
Date: 18 Oct 1994 16:06:31 GMT

I received this interesting SOS relay via Portishead Radio, England, last night at 2143 in Sitor-B on 8417.0:

CQ DE GKE 2115171094 R40749  
DDD SOS SOS SOS DDD DE GKE GKE GKE  
FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM CG FALMOUTH AT 2030 GMT BEGINS

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM GARTMORE INVESTMENT MANAGERS ON INMARSAT C.  
IN POSITION 171935 UTC OCT 1327 SOUTH 02739 WEST STOP  
TAKING WATER STOP ONE PERSON ON BOARD STOP REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE STOP  
YACHT NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA PROCEEDING 95 NMS TO RUN.  
ENDS =

FALMOUTH CG CO-ORDINATING =  
PORTISHEADRADIO 172040 UTC + A  
COL 2030 GARTMORE 171935 UTC 1327 SOUTH 02739 WEST 95 NMS  
172043 UTC

The yacht Newcastle Australia was entered in the BOC Around the World Challange Race. I can't tell if the yacht is in trouble or is assisting.

Anyone hear anything?

--

Rick Baker (ae411@yfn.ysu.edu)

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 01:20:29 1994  
Date: Tue, 18 Oct 94 22:27:51 CDT  
From: bill@rosevax.rosemount.com (William Hawkins)  
Message-ID: <9410190327.AA01100@texan.rosemount.com>

Subject: Re: Discover Tesla (fwd)

Tesla was one of those people whose brilliant mind disconnected from reality. Perhaps his ultimate idea was to ionize the stratosphere and use it for one terminal in a power distribution system. That's what he was doing with big equipment in Colorado Springs when the money ran out - much to the relief of astronomers everywhere.

He wasn't so much the inventor of florescent lighting as he was a promoter of resonant power supplies for single wire distribution to lamps that weren't at all like Edison's. This also failed, much to the relief of future users of the radio frequencies.

And, the word is that he was granted patent rights to radio in 1943 so that the US would not have to pay royalties to Italy - which would have been very unpopular at that time.

It is fascinating to study human intelligence gone awry. His brilliant work on three phase motors was largely due to his ability to visualize the behavior of the fields in his mind. Not sure there's much to learn from those who value his contributions to pseudoscience.

Just my opinion, from reading books about him and by him. Marginal boatanchor stuff, but we wouldn't be here if he had succeeded at lighting the world with resonant RF power supplies.

Bill Hawkins

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 10:08:24 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 94 09:02:24 EDT  
From: mallick@ausable.crd.ge.com (John Mallick)  
Message-Id: <9410191302.AA16157@ausable.crd.Ge.Com>  
Subject: Re: Discover Tesla (fwd)

Date: Tue, 18 Oct 94 22:27:51 CDT  
From: bill@rosevax.rosemount.com (William Hawkins)

(snip...)

He wasn't so much the inventor of florescent lighting as he was a promoter of resonant power supplies for single wire distribution to lamps that weren't at all like Edison's. This also failed, much to the relief of future users of the radio frequencies.

...

It is interesting to note that the new generation of energy efficient lamps use an RF excited plasma, resonant power supplies, etc. Maybe Tesla was on to something...

BTW, I think Tesla's induction motor was originally a two-phase design, rather than a three-phase (from what I remember of his AIEE papers). He was certainly brilliant, but just a bit eccentric. He loved pigeons, but didn't like shiny spherical objects (like pearls). Too bad the pseudoscience crowd has picked up on him.

73, JOHN WA1HNL

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 12:23:27 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 94 15:20:38 UTC  
Message-Id: <2537@ki5sl.ampr.org>  
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick\_Blank)  
Subject: Ee: Tesla

Boy, what a can of worms I opened by posting the info of a Tesla occurrance! I only wanted to pass along some info, not get into whether Tesla was a charlatan or a savant! It was just something that came across one of my other mail lists and thought it might be interesting, at least more interesting than the constant bs about oj on the tube! I would much rather attend a presentation of Tesla's work and stuff than sit thru one evening of 90210!

I have done other transgressions in the past on packet radio and probably will do in the future...i.e: I have posted for the last several years info about the San Antonio Radio Club's January hamfest to ALLUS...sometimes I get flamers back asking why in the world I would post a regional thing like that to national boards, was I nuts (of course!) or just plain stupid? Well, year before last a gentleman had to be in San Antonio on business during the time of our swapfest and had seen a posting on a Washington D.C. area packet BBS....he enjoyed our swap meet and said it was quite a contrast to the east coast junk and offshore garbage fests he had been going to recently...I guess if the info gets out to one who can use it then I have done a little good....

Oh well, it's still a lot of fun....

Rick Blank, KI5SL  
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org  
2223 Blanco Road  
San Antonio, Texas 78212  
end

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 11:42:35 1994  
From: "Skelton, Tom" <TSkelton@engineer.ClemsonSC.NCR.COM>  
Subject: FW: Hallicrafters SR-xxx (now triband transceivers!)

Date: Wed, 19 Oct 94 10:26:00 PDT  
Message-Id: <2EA55AFB@admin.ClemsonSC.NCR.COM>

<del>

Note to newbies: About 2 or 3 sunspot cycles ago as we were headed into a minimum and 10 and 15 were hardly ever open, several manufacturers decided to build transceivers covering only the lower HF bands. So you will find things like the Hallicrafters, Swan, and others with 80/40/20m (but no 160!) radios (Heath had monobanders for any one of 80/40/20).

Gary

And don't forget the venerable EICO 753.....an 80/40/20 meter ssb/cw transceiver with 10 KHz dial readout. Kinda hard to work the band edges as a high school General class back in the late 60's/early 70's. I had the questionable of building and owning one. I was very happy to sell it and buy a Heath HW101 to build.

73, tom WB4iUX

Tom.Skelton@ClemsonSC.NCR.COM

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 23:49:14 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 94 22:12:14 UTC  
Message-Id: <2549@ki5sl.ampr.org>  
From: ki5sl@ki5sl.ampr.org (Rick\_Blank)  
Subject: Hallicrafters SR series

Well, it was asked for, so, here goes:

A little of the SR series history (with special thanks to Max de Hensler and his book: " The Hallicrafters Story, 1933-1975)..

In studying the book, it appears that the first Hallicrafters piece to use the styling of the SR-150, SR-160, SR-400, SR-500 (the Tornado was actually the second SR-500, the first was the HT-30 transmitter, the SX-100 receiver, and the HT-31 Linear amplifier mounted in a commercial broadcast styled console), and the SR-2000 was the SX-117 receiver. This was a good receiver with 3 separate bandwidths, AM, CW, SSB modes, triple conversion, had four auxiliary positions for general coverage type bands, a provision for operation on frequencies between 85 kcs and 3.0 mcs with an auxiliary LF/MF tuner model HA-10, had 14 tubes, had most of the features of its big brother, the SX-115, and cost in 1963, \$379.95. The R-47 speaker was recommended for voice and CW use, the R-48A was recommended for other uses. This unit's introduction in October of 1962 was the launch of the new silver,

black and grey front panel treatment.

The SR-150 5-band transceiver was introduced in November of 1962. The matching AC power supply was the P-150-AC and the mobile supply was the P-150-DC. I think this was one of the very first radios to use RIT (if you've used xcvrs without RIT in them you know how great a feature this could be, especially when all the other guys were running separate xmitrs and rcvrs). The SR-150 is rated at 150 w input SSB and 125 CW. This unit listed at \$650 and the power supply was \$99.50

In November 1963, the matching transmitter to the SX-117 was introduced. The HT-44 had Hallicrafters stabilized phasing system for sideband generation and had a pair of 6DQ5's for finals. It was rated at 200 watts input for AM, CW, or SSB operation, on 80 thru 10 meters. This unit also used the P-150-AC power supply-speaker. The HT-44 cost \$395 and the CA-44 interconnecting cable for transceive operation with the SX-117 cost \$4.95. So, cost for the SX-117 and HT-44 combination with power supply was \$879.40, in 1963 dollars!

In December 1963, the SR-160 was introduced. It was a compact tri-band, single conversion 150 watt PEP input rig. It had 17 tubes and used the PS-150 supplies, weighed 13.25 lbs and cost \$349.50. It did not have a notch filter or CW filter.

In April of 1964, the SX-122 receiver was introduced. It was a general coverage AM/CW/ SSB, dual conversion on all bands, bandspread, 11 tube receiver. The unit cost \$295. The SX-122-A was introduced in 1967 and was almost the same rig with a few minor component changes and it listed for \$395 without a speaker. Accessory calibrators were the HA-7 for the 122 and the HA-19 for the 122A.

In May of 1964, the HT-45 "Loudenboomer" amp was introduced. This was a Hallicrafters styled Radio Industries amplifier. The Loudenboomer was marketed by RI and Hallicrafters took them over and they became a subsidiary of Hallicrafters. This rig used a single 3-400 tube and could deliver full legal power when used with a 2700 to 3000 volt at 380 ma. power supply. Hallicrafters recommended the P-45 power supply for this amp. The amp cost \$299.50, the P-45 weighed 58 lbs. and cost \$199.95.

In January of 1965, the SR-42 and the SR-46 2meter and 6 meter transceivers were introduced. They had dual conversion receivers and crystal controlled transmitters of 5 watts output. They weighed 17 lbs and cost \$189.95

In June 1965, the SR-500 "Tornado" was introduced. It covered

80, 40, & 20 meters. This unit used two 8236 tubes in the PA (try finding any!) and had an input rating of 500 watts PEP SSB and 300 watts CW. It was also a single conversion rig like the SR-160 and also had no notch or CW filter, either. The unit used the P-500-AC or DC power supplies. The radio cost \$395, the AC supply was \$109.95 and the DC supply was \$149.95.

December of 1965 saw the introduction of the Hallicrafters "Hurricane". The SR-2000 was a high performance, compact, table top rig with a 2000 watt input rating. The final tubes were 8122's. The rig had RIT, an Amplified Automatic Level Control (AALC) that worked during transmit, and was capable of 1000 watts PEP out and 500 watts on CW. It had a built-in, adjustable IF noise blanker. The radio cost \$995 in 1965 and the matching P-2000 power supply with meters for plate current and plate voltage cost \$395.

The Model HA-20 was a self contained VFO for use with the SR-2000 and the SR-400 series of transceivers. With this unit, the operator could use frequencies separated by as much as the 500 khz band segments would allow. It had an SWR meter, and was capable of "dual receive" (hearing both the transmitter and receiver frequencies if working splits) and cost \$199.95.

In 1966, Hallicrafters was purchased by the Northrop Corporation. It is said that this is what brought about the rapid decline of the Hallicrafters position in amateur radio equipment production.

The next "SR" series of rig to be produced was the SR-400 "Cyclone". This unit was introduced in May of 1967. This rig was an improvement over the earlier SR-2000 in several ways while remaining a lot of identical features and circuits. The power supply and final amplifier were different, but, the rest of the transmitter was the same. The receiver was improved by the addition of a narrow CW reception selection and by the inclusion of a notch filter. The rig was rated at 400 watts PEP input for SSB and 360 watts for CW. The matching power supply-speaker was the PS-500-AC. The radio weighed 18 lbs and cost \$799.95, the power supply cost \$119.

In April of 1971, the SR-400-A, "Cyclone III" was introduced. It is supposed to be almost identical but to offer an optional cooling fan, the HA-60, for improved reliability. The SR-400-A cost \$895 and the fan was \$39.95.

The SR-400A was the last of the SR series produced and ended production in 1972, the SR-2000 was made until 1971, the "Tornado"

was made in 1965 and 1966, the SR-150 was made from 1962 til 1965, the SR-160 in 1963 and 1964. Looking at the charts, the SR that was produced the most years without a change was the SR-2000 with production for seven years and next would be the two SR-400 variations for a total of 5 years. This information is according to the advertising information given in de Hensler's book. The SX-122A was last advertised in 1970.

For a few personal observations: I have an SR-150 and an SR-400A. Both are pretty good rigs, but are like all old rigs, sometimes tempermental and sometimes needing a little TLC. I have had an SR-500 "Tornado" and sold it after not being able to find any tubes for the PA in a one year long search. The unit would hit 300 watts peak output on 75 meters and about 225 on 40 and 20. A buddy of mine wanted it and he eventually sold it, too.

I feel like the SR-150 is a much better rig than the SR-160 or the Tornado. It's receiver is dual conversion, a bit more selective, and just a bit nicer rig to use.

The SR-400A is a jewel to use, it's noise blunker absolutely blows away the ones in either my Yaesu FT-990 or my Icom R-71A. It will even knock back line noise and make conversations possible when I cant hear them on the new stuff! It takes a steady hand to adjust, but, is a real winner in my book. The CW filter is OK and the notch filter works, all in all, my favorite SSB Boatanchor to use.

I hope this helps with some who are asking questions about this series and style of Hallicrafters rigs and hope you have fun with them. I am still looking for a nice SX-117 - HT-44 combination, and hope to see a set of them one of these days...

Rick Blank, KI5SL  
ki5sl@sat.ampr.org  
2223 Blanco Road  
San Antonio, Texas 78212  
end

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 04:01:07 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 02:52:03 -0400  
From: WaltN@aol.com  
Message-ID: <9410190103476616428@aol.com>  
Subject: Re: Help on SP-600 and 51J2

Re the SP-600...check the contacts on the coil turret...if they're grungy, the band will be dead. Try DeOxit to be sure the surfaces are clean.

Re the 51J2's broadcast band...as wierd as it may sound, I have a 51J3 whose broadcast band coils have been very neatly (almost surgically, one might say) removed! It looks as though this might even have been made this way at the factory...maybe the services ordered them this way to prevent the boys from listening to baseball? Take a look under the chassis and make sure that all the coils that \*should\* be there really are.

Walt

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 13:53:37 1994  
Message-Id: <n1429563396.67015@cpqm.saic.com>  
Date: 19 Oct 1994 12:30:11 U  
From: "Bob Scott" <Bob\_Scott@cpqm.saic.com>  
Subject: Ladder Line

Could someone educate me in the advantages and disadvantages of using Ladder Line VS Coax? I should know this, but in spite of my research, it has not become clear to me. I just get the impression that the best wire antennas are fed with ladder line of some sort. Thanks. Bob AC4QO

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 17:01:15 1994  
Message-Id: <n1429554838.82942@cpqm.saic.com>  
Date: 19 Oct 1994 14:50:36 U  
From: "Bob Scott" <Bob\_Scott@cpqm.saic.com>  
Subject: Re: Ladder Line

Does it not also radiate as it is part of the antenna?  
One of my problems is that my house access point is about 20 feet or so from my equipment. The feedline has to run past a washer, dryer, and hot water heater (all electric).  
Bob

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 17:06:00 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 14:37:44 -0400  
From: Nick England <nick@cs.unc.edu>  
Message-Id: <199410191837.0AA06678@altair.cs.unc.edu>  
Subject: Re: Ladder Line

Here's what I understand -

Assuming we're talking about wire antennas for the HF bands (160-10) -  
(At VHF-UHF it is generally easier to put the matching network directly at the antenna and feed it with co-ax)

Primary advantage of ladder line is that it has very low loss -

consequently it isn't bothered by high SWR (meaning it doesn't waste RF energy as heat).

This means you can build an antenna, run ladder line to it, and feed the ladder line with a tuner, WITHOUT particularly worrying about what the antenna impedance is - great for multiband antennas or for resonant antennas with relatively high impedance.

Disadvantages of ladder line are mostly physical - you have to keep it away from any conducting surface as you run it into the shack, have to fabricate your own lightning arrestors, etc. And you MUST use a tuner/balun to connect to your transmitter's unbalanced 50 ohm output.

One compromise is to run co-ax from inside your shack to a tuner located outside the shack (possibly inconvenient). Another is to use an unbalanced tuner inside and run a short length of low-loss co-ax to an external balun transformer and then use ladder line in the long run from balun to antenna. In this case you still have a high SWR on the co-ax but don't use up too much power.

The problem is that baluns generally don't stand up to high SWR and convert RF to heat. That's why the preferred tuner for ladder line systems is a balanced tuner design such as the Johnson matchbox, instead of an unbalanced tuner with balun (such as MFJ, etc.)

AND a question for the group -

I understand ferrite rod or toroidal baluns don't handle high SWR well, but what about air-core ones (like the old Heath one) ?? What is your experience with these ?

Nick KD4CPL

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 18:37:35 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 16:22:41 -0400  
From: "Rhett T. George" <rtg@ee.duke.edu>  
Message-ID: <199410192022.QAA125926@ee.ee.duke.edu>  
Subject: Re: Ladder Line

- Bob -

Check out the attenuation/ft of ladder line and coax. Then out the attenuation/100ft. I believe you'll find that the ladder line does not turn as much transmitter power into line heat as the coax will.

Rhett - KE4HIH

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 19:38:51 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 16:15:09 -0500  
From: CCS\_MAH@admin.fandm.edu (Mark Hemlick Ph. D.)

Subject: RE: Ladder line  
Message-Id: <01HIGT5BBS9EA9L0LN@ACAD.FANDM.EDU>

Bob Wrote:

>Could someone educate me in the advantages and disadvantages  
>of using Ladder Line VS Coax? I should know this, but in

Advantages:

1. Less expensive
2. Can be home made
3. Lower loss per unit length, even with high SWR
4. Good for multiband systems like non-resonant dipole
5. Don't need a balun at the antenna feedpoint, (but you do down at the transmitter).

Disadvantages:

1. Must be kept away from other conductors and other objects that will create loss due to capacitive coupling (i.e. can't be taped to towers, run inside walls, along outside walls, or buried)
2. Dipole antenna itself should be well balanced and have both legs at equal height above ground to avoid creating an imbalance in the feedline and feedline radiation.
3. Flimsier than good coax.
4. Certain types don't perform well when wet or dirty and may show higher SWR under these conditions. This problem becomes worse as the amount of dielectric material between the conductors increases. Open wire line is best, TV receiving type twin lead is the worst. Window line is in the middle.
5. Possibility of dangerously high currents/voltages on open-wire line that can be touched by kids, pets and the XYL!

73 Mark KA3LFG (Disclaimer: I am not an engineer!)

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 20:44:21 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 16:09:20 -0500  
Message-Id: <199410192109-AA13254@eceserv0.ece.wisc.edu>  
From: beyer@eceserv0.ece.wisc.edu (James B. Beyer)  
Subject: Re: Ladder Line

>Could someone educate me in the advantages and disadvantages  
>of using Ladder Line VS Coax? I should know this, but in  
>spite of my research, it has not become clear to me. I just  
>get the impression that the best wire antennas are fed with  
>ladder line of some sort. Thanks. Bob AC4QO

Bob,

I'll give you my feelings and standby for the static,

Ladder line was common in the days when I entered this fraternity. I always thought it was far prettier than coax and looked like a short wave station ought to. It began to disappear with the coming of the TV era and the cheap coax that was abundant after WW II. Of course running TV twin lead near HF ladder line is an invitation for trouble but in most cases the TVI had more to do with the balanced output tuners that were inherently not low pass, so ladder line got a bum rap. Ladder line can be constructed with considerably higher characteristic impedance than coax and it is, of course, balanced. If the antenna is compatible with those characteristics then it's probably the best choice. (Many wire antennas fit those conditions) If ladder line is constructed using a substantial wire gauge (say #12) then the losses under large VSWR will typically be much lower than coax. As long as one has a tuner at the transmitter end to bring the input impedance to the 50 ohm vicinity so as to be compatible with the transmitter's pi-section unbalanced output, you're in business.

If you like to experiment with wire antenna arrays and use them over a wide bandwidth then it's the only way to go, and besides, as I said earlier, ladder line is beautiful. 73,

Jim Beyer W9ADJ

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 21:00:14 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 17:23:30 -0500  
From: CCS\_MAH@admin.fandm.edu (Mark Hemlick Ph. D.)  
Subject: Re: Ladder line  
Message-ID: <01HIGVJ2D0YQA9L1NB@ACAD.FANDM.EDU>

Bob, you write:

>Does it not also radiate as it is part of the antenna?  
>One of my problems is that my house access point is about  
>20 feet or so from my equipment. The feedline has to run  
>past a washer, dryer, and hot water heater (all electric).  
>Bob

My understanding is that it won't radiate if it is correctly installed. This means that the currents on each conductor of the LL must be balanced.

Several types of installation can cause unbalance and should be avoided.

For a dipole, you should

1. Be sure each leg of the antenna is the same physical length.
2. Be sure each leg is the same height above ground.
3. be sure that both legs are symmetrically placed with respect to nearby conductive objects.
4. Be sure that the feedline leaves the antenna at a 90 deg. angle for at least 0.25 wavelength.
5. Detune the feedline for antenna currents by choosing a length that is not resonant with the desired operating frequency. 39, 58, 96, 109 and 145 ft are good lengths for all bands with the possible exception of 160, 30, 17, and 12 meters.

Hope this helps,

73 Mark KA3LFG (Disclaimer: Once again, I'm not an engineer!)

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 22:09:57 1994

From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu

Subject: Re: Ladder Line

Date: Wed, 19 Oct 94 18:09 CDT

Message-Id: <EAJI0915.EAJI0928@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu

Hello Bob.

Re. ladder line radiation:

Yes, it WILL most certainly radiate, and quite effectively too, unless it's terminated at its characteristic impedance (i.e., used "flat", which means no standing waves on the line. This effectively eliminates MOST multiband antennas).

The situation you describe doesn't sound like a good one for open wire line. Unless you're using large powers (I'd call that 100 watts or greater) I really wouldn't sweat the possibility of damage to the water heater or dryer, unless they have microprocessors in them.

Much more important, your situation is going to have 2 undesired effects.

First, you'll probably wind up coupling RF into house wiring, phone wiring, etc. which will cause you no end of grief to clean up. At high power, you can also wind up with RF in the plumbing; drawing sparks from the water faucet handle will not endear your hobby to your family.

Second, with multiband ops, it's almost certain that on some band you're gonna wind up with too much RF in the shack. This problem will show up as audio problems, getting RF burns from metal parts of the mike or key, and other nasties. With processor controlled Japanese rigs, the range of weird behaviors possible is infinite.

Granted, these things can also happen with poor antennas fed with coax, but you've really gotta work at it. With multiband open wire feeders, it's a lot easier to get into this kind of trouble in a situation like yours.

The only solution to some of these hassles is to get the line out of the shack IMMEDIATELY, if not sooner! Running it for long distances indoors is just asking for trouble.

Tom, K9TA

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 17:49:04 1994  
From: azoth@netcom.com (Az0th)  
Message-Id: <199410191919.PAA05357@netcom6.netcom.com>  
Subject: Need Knight Star Roamer Schematic  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 15:19:00 -0400 (EDT)

Greetings, Boatanchorites!

I've just rescued a Knight Star Roamer from near certain death, and need a copy of the little beast's manual/schematic. It's physically in fine shape, but has no audio and needs a little TLC to make it play again. I caught the SWL bug from a radio like this one back in my pre-teens, and although I don't expect it'll see a lot of use, it would be nice to have it working again.

If somebody has a copy of the original assembly manual, I'd be happy to pay copy/shipping charges. TIA.

Cheers,  
RF Buchanan

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 20:09:58 1994  
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu  
Subject: Re. Ladder Line  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 94 15:04 CDT  
Message-Id: <EAJF0423.EAJF0436@mail.admin.wisc.edu>

to: boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu

Hello Bob.

Ladder line pros and cons:

PRO

Lower losses. Since most transmission line loss is in the form of heating in the dielectric, ladder line is a hands down winner. A major spinoff of this one is that it's practical to deliberately operate open wire lines at very high SWR figures (dielectric losses skyrocket as VSWR goes up); an example of this kind of operation is the Zepp multiband antenna, where normal operation includes mismatches that produce SWR figures of 20:1 or more. Under this kind of operating condition with coax, nearly all of your transmitting power would go into either cooking the internal insulation, or breaking it down at voltage loops!

CON

Obviously, modern transmitters have to use a matching network to feed open wire line; don't bother to look for the 600 ohm output terminal on your Yeasu, 'cause it ain't there.

Open wire lines are more susceptable to noise pickup than coax, because of the total lack of shielding. NOTE! This does NOT apply to Twinax cable, sometimes used as receiving feedline.

Open wire feeder CAN be used on VHF, but above 400 MHz or so the spacing required to prevent excess line radiation becomes too narrow to be practical in the real world.

Open wire feeders are much more sensitive to weather conditions than coax. Wet spreader insulators, and/or spreaders that are surface contaminated by air pollution are obviously lossier than clean, dry ones.

It's obvious that working with open wire can be a royal pain in the butt. For best operation it must be routed away from metal masses. Getting it into the shack can be a real exercise in ingenuity. Also, with the increased caution these days about unnecessary human exposure to RF energy, open wire flunks the test if it goes directly into the shack. To avoid all of these problems, I use coax until I get outside, and then use impedance matching devices to transition to ladder line.

Hope this helps.

73's,

Tom "Mr. T." Adams, K9TA

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 16:47:26 1994  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 1994 13:18:47 -0500 (CDT)  
From: KANAMAA%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.abbott.com  
Subject: Surf the net with Tesla  
Message-Id: <01HIGN35SQTEEKHOEN@RANDB.PPRD.Abbott.Com>

>From: Kana, Michael (D9CY)  
Date: Wed, Oct 19, 1994 1:36 PM  
Subject: Surf the net with Tesla  
To: boatanchors  
Howdy all

I was wondering if there was a Tesla newsgroup (Im sure there is) on the net. Any addresses?

73's de AA9IL  
Mike Kana

From owner-boatanchors@gnu.ai.mit.edu Wed Oct 19 09:49:02 1994  
Message-Id: <9410191242.AA14578@CS1.sequoia.com>  
Subject: Tesla dribble  
Date: Wed, 19 Oct 94 8:42:34 EDT  
From: davidk@sequoia.com <davidk@CS1.sequoia.com>

--  
David Kirkpatrick N1RBM, Sequoia Systems, Marlboro, Ma  
davidk@sequoia.com